deserving Customs officers. It is not proposed to introduce any new Scheme.

(e) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Action under the laws/rules is taken.

बुनकरों से प्राप्त प्रतिवेदन

2306. श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अप्रैल, 1992 के अंतिम सप्ताह में बाराबंकी बुनकर फेडरेशन के अध्यक्ष श्री मुनव्वर अली के नेतृत्व में बुनकरों के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने उनसे भेंट करके उन्हें एक प्रतिवेदन दिया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रतिवेदन के अनुसार प्रतिनिधि मंडल की मांगें क्या थीं और सरकार ने प्रत्येक मांग के संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) फेडरेशन ने विस्कोस स्टेपल फाइबर और यार्न पर उत्पाद शुल्क समाप्त करने का अनुरोध किया है । वर्ष 1993-94 के आगामी बजट को ध्यान में रखते हुए, इस स्तर पर कोई टिप्पणी नहीं की जा सकती है ।

Effect of Securities SCAM on Foreign Investment

2307. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that following the securities scam a perceptible change in the foreign investment climate has come to Government's notice;

(b) what are the details of the proposals for foreign investments and collaborations for setting up or expansion, restructuring or rehabilitation of industries that have been dropped or postponed following the revelation of the Scam in April this year; and

(c) what are the details of the foreign investment and collaboration proposals that have been finalised during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The foreign investment climate is determined by a large number of factors relating to the state of the domestic economy, perceptions of the policy framework and diversion of policy, the state of the world economy, etc. The security scam did lead to some negative perceptions but the determination of the government to correct deficiencies and proceed with financial sector reforms has offset this. The number and value of proposals and approvals for foreign investments and collaboration have been increased substantially compared to last year. Thus, there has been no perceptible adverse effect on the foreign investment inflow.

(c) Total foreign investment envisaged in foreign collaboration approvals accorded during the period from May, 92 to October, 1992 totalled Rs. 2262.44 crores as against Rs. 1417.19 crores during the period from August, 1991 to April, 1992.

Halt in investment activities due to securities SCAM

2308. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that since the Securities, Scam came to light, investment activities, including constructive and safe ones had by and large come to a halt;

(b) if so, what is the assessment about the magnitude and dimentions of such transactions made by Nationalised Banks including the RBI and SBI branches during the months since April, 1992 monthwise and the comparative figures for the corresponding preceding period; and

(c) the steps since taken to revive the constructive public interest transactions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) It is not correct to say that investment activities have come to a halt since an amount of Rs. 6700 crores capital was estimated to have been raised in the primary market for securities by companies during April--September 1992, as against Rs. 5749 crores during the year 1991-92.

(b) and (c) In view of above the questions do not arise.

Income-tax and Wealth-tax return filed by Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

2309. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister filed income-tax or wealth-tax returns during the last three financial years; and

(b) if so, whether any arrears are pending in the payment of taxes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Returns for the last three years have been filed.

(b) No, Sir.

Financial crisis faced by special category States

2310. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that special category States of the country are in a financial crisis;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to help these States out of crisis;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government of Himachal Pradesh has given a formula to the Central Government towards the solution of the crisis; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTA RAM POTDUKHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the special category States like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura are in financial crisis during the current financial year.

(b) Transfer of resources to States are made on the recommendations of the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission. The States' entitlements are released on monthly quarterly basis or reimbursed on the basis of claims filed by the State Governments. States in overdraft were advised to take steps to come out of the overdraft. When the overdraft persisted, State's entitlements were preponed to assist them in coming out of overdraft.

(c) and (d) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Government of Himachal Pradesh have made the following alternative suggestions to the Government of India towards the solution of the financial crisis of the State :--

(i) Grant of annual Special Central assistance of at least Rs. 200 crores per annum to the State Government;

(ii) To allow the State Government 12% free power on all Hydel Projects located in Himachal Pradesh irrespective of the date of commissioning of such projects; and

(iii) Clearance of the bill submitted by the State Government to the Government of India for allowing them to levy duty on generation of electricity within the territory of Himachal Pradesh.

The suggestions made above by the State Government are under consideration of the Government of India.